

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 1-25-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 1-24-55

WEATHER Steady winter weather prevailed. Temperatures averaged about 10° below normal over the extreme western portion of the State to about 4° below in the southeast and near normal in the northeast. Some sub-zero temperatures occurred on still nights in the west, but otherwise no extremely low temperatures occurred. Light to locally moderate snow fell over the western and northern portions of the State, and moderate to locally heavy over the south-central and southeast. There was little drifting when the snow fell, but strong winds later caused considerable drifting from the ground.

CROPS Winter wheat has received 5 to 14 inches of snow from the snowfall that occurred during the first and third weeks of January. The total amount of snow during the first 3 weeks of January will average 8 and 3/4 inches throughout the wheat belt. This snow has been of inestimable value to the wheat crop. Despite the mild fall, most of the wheat had reached dormancy before the close of December.

There was some local blowing of snow at the close of last week, but generally most of the snow remained where it fell on the fields. While the amount of moisture from the snow is not adequate, it will help materially in packing the soil which had become quite loose due to the November and December drouth. With the splendid root growth and with the snow cover, the present outlook for winter wheat is generally excellent.

Many of the counties have reported an application of lime and the purchase of commercial fertilizer to be used this year. Mild weather up to January has enabled farmers to get much of their seasonal work completed with a minimum of hired help.

Carlot movement of potatoes is picking up but so far has been comparatively light. Low temperatures stopped some of the shipping. Only 924 cars had been shipped up to January 20 as compared with 1,553 cars to the same date a year ago.

Merchantable farm stocks of potatoes are estimated at 2,500,000 bushels as compared with 2,950,000 bushels on January 1, 1954 and 4,168,000 bushels the 1944-53 January 1 average. Nationally, January 1 merchantable stocks amounted to 118 million bushels or about 10 million bushels below last year and 10 million bushels below the average.

LIVESTOCK More hay and feed is being consumed by livestock since the first of the year. The favorable weather up to the close of the past year reduced the consumption of hay and forage. There is considerable surplus, much of which is moving at satisfactory prices.

There were a number of reports regarding the good gains made from pasturing corn stalks and winter wheat fields last fall. One report from southeastern Nebraska states that 74 head of steers gained 8,733 pounds last fall on 100 acres of wheat pasture and 30 acres of alfalfa and red clover pasture. This is an average gain of 118 pounds per head.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 24, 1955

Eastern Division

Grand Island .36
Lincoln .61
Norfolk .32
Omaha .39
Sioux City .26

Central Division

Burwell .13
North Platte .39
Valentine .19

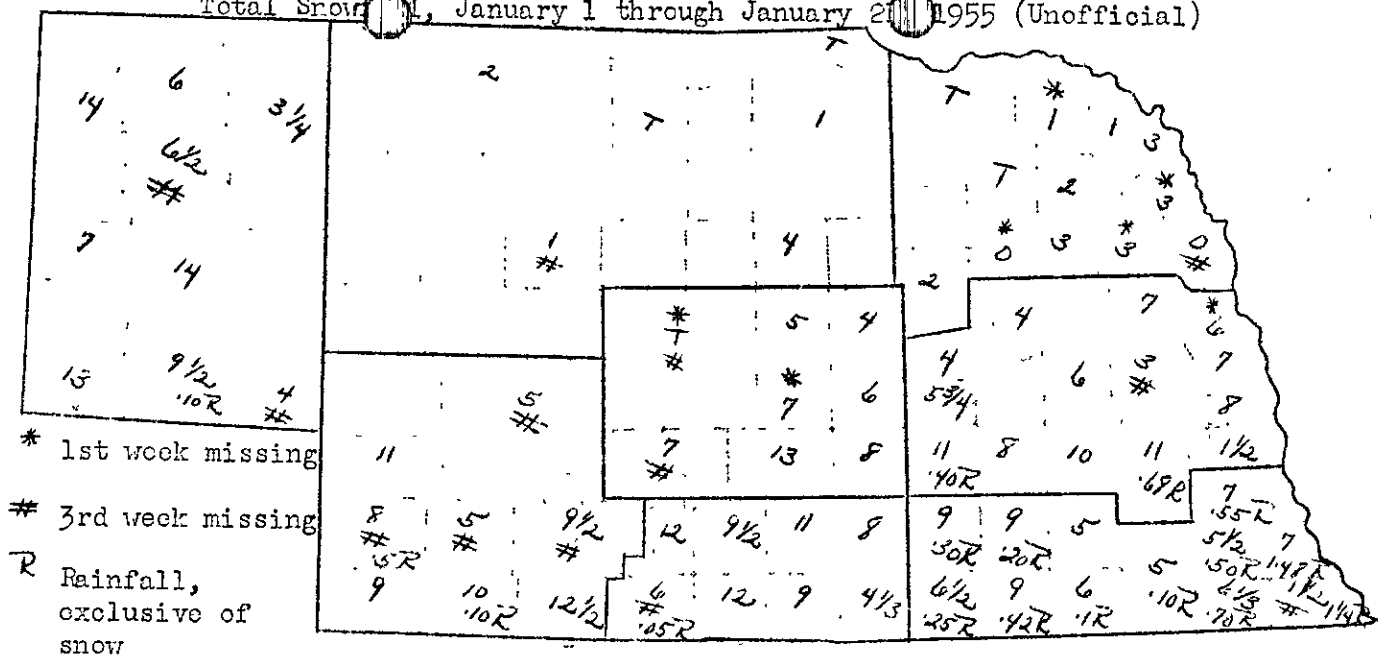
Western Division

Chadron .07
Imperial .14
Scottsbluff .16
Sidney .14

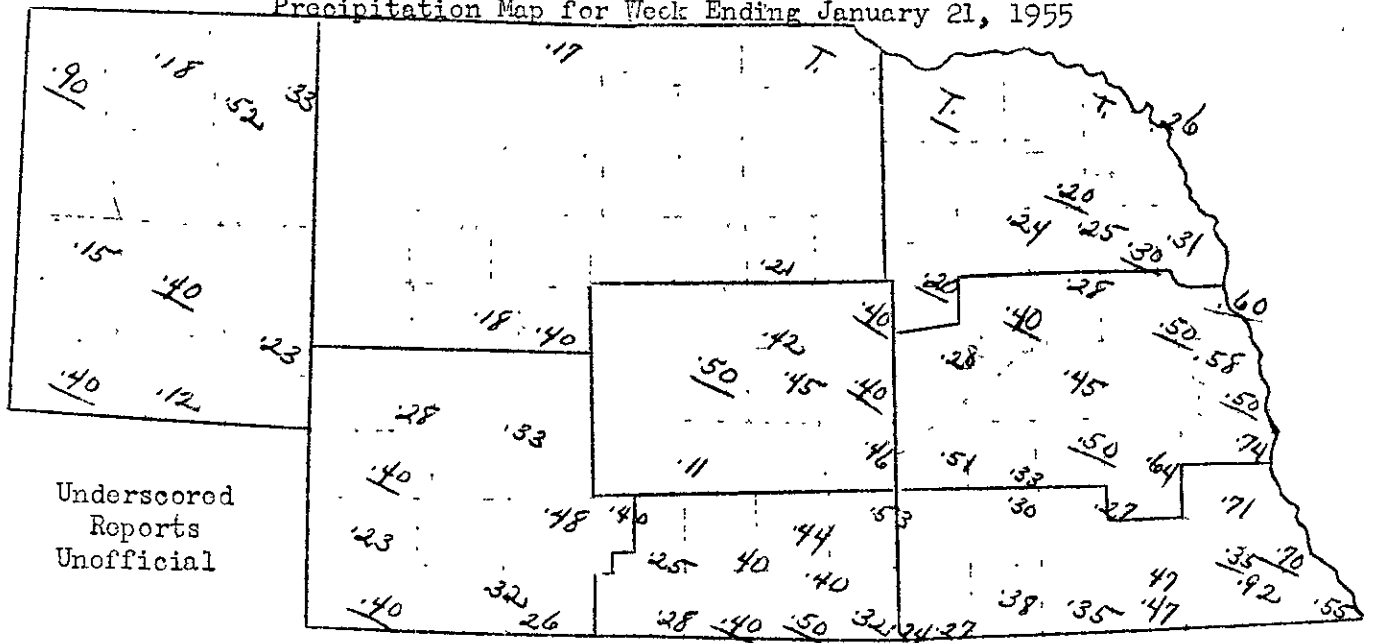
1300

1-25-55

Total Snowfall, January 1 through January 21, 1955 (Unofficial)



Precipitation Map for Week Ending January 21, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (High for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and low for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		January		18th		19th		20th		21st		22nd		23rd		24th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	27	6	24	-15	24	7	29	13	23	14	24	3	39	21		
	Scottsbluff	27	2	23	-8	18	-1	29	1	23	14	25	-2	37	19		
	Sidney	25	9	31	-4	19	2	28	9	25	13	25	5	37	21		
N-C	Burwell	20	13	21	14	23	19	30	10	26	11	23	3	34	25		
	Valentine	21	15	23	15	20	17	30	9	21	14	24	-4	36	25		
NE	Norfolk	24	17	21	19	24	11	29	10	26	7	21	5	31	19		
	Sioux City	28	17	25	2	28	19	31	16	29	10	19	7	32	12		
CEN.	Grand Island	22	17	21	14	25	19	28	10	27	12	--	--	34	21		
E-C	Lincoln	28	20	22	10	21	16	31	17	31	12	24	5	34	23		
	Omaha	24	18	21	5	22	8	30	16	29	7	22	8	21	15		
SW	Imperial	23	13	23	3	17	2	27	7	30	15	23	3	36	24		
	North Platte	22	15	21	6	20	17	27	13	27	4	26	7	36	20		

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